

MINUTES

STATE OF WASHINGTON

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

June 12, 2000 – Regular Meeting

Rowe Six Conference Center – Building 1
4224 6th Avenue SE
Lacey, Washington

Item 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chair Deborah Ross. A quorum was present.

Item 2: Roll Call

Chair	Deborah Ross
Department of Agriculture	Daniel Jemelka
Department of Community, Trade & Economic Development	Heather Ballash
Department of Fish & Wildlife	Jenene Ratassepp
Department of Ecology	Charles Carelli
Department of Health	Ellen Haars
Department of Natural Resources	Gayle Rothrock
Department of Transportation	Gary Ray
Utilities and Transportation Commission	Dick Byers
City of Chehalis	Fred Rider
Port of Bellingham	Bob Hilbert (via phone)

Others in Attendance

EFSEC Staff	Guests
Allen Fiksdal	Laura Schinnell, Energy Northwest
Mike Mills	Rose Spogen, Critical Issues Council
Mariah Laamb	John Mudge, Critical Issues Council

Item 3: Approval of Minutes – May 8, 2000

The Council approved the draft minutes of the May 8, 2000 meeting as presented.

Item 4: Adoption of Proposed Agenda

The Council approved the Agenda as submitted.

Item 5: Sumas 2 Generation Facility, Application No. 99-1*(Allen Fiksdal reporting)***Adjudicative Proceedings/Schedule**

Mr. Fiksdal reported that the schedule for the adjudicative hearings is as follows:

- July 17 - Prehearing Conference, Rowe Six Conference Center, Building One, Lacey, time to be announced later (later set to begin at 9:00 a.m.);
- July 24-29 - Adjudicative Hearings will be held in Bellingham at the Best Western Heritage Inn Conference Room.
- July 31 – August 3 - The hearings will reconvene in Olympia at the Cherberg Building, Hearing Room No. 4.

There are two evening sessions scheduled for receiving public testimony during the week hearings are being held in Bellingham. They are: Tuesday, July 25 at North Wood Hall in Bellingham, and Thursday, July 27 at Nooksack Valley High School Auditorium in Everson.

Staff will be making final arrangements during the next week.

Item 6: Chehalis Generation Facility**Site Certification Agreements Amendment – Status***(Allen Fiksdal reporting)*

Mr. Fiksdal reported that the adjudicative hearings were completed on May 30. Chehalis Power will submit its Post-Hearing Brief by June 13; Intervenor's Response Briefs are due by June 27; and Chehalis Power's Reply Brief is due by July 5. The Council will schedule deliberative sessions after these filings are received.

A public hearing has been scheduled for June 19, 2000, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Council's Plum Street Office, to receive comments on the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) air quality permit. Notice of the hearing was made on May 18.

Item 7: Energy Northwest Nuclear Projects (WNP-2 and 1/4) and Satsop Combustion (CT) Project**WNP-2 Operations***(Mike Mills reporting)*

Mr. Mills reported that Columbia Generating Station (formerly WNP-2) was currently operating at 100%. The plant has been online 232 consecutive days.

Dry Cask Storage*(Mike Mills reporting)*

On May 4, 2000, Energy Northwest submitted a request to amend the WNP-2 Site Certification Agreement to allow for the construction of a dry cask storage facility on the plant site. Mr. Mills indicated that the Executive Committee, with support from Counsel, was looking into legal questions on the role of the state versus that of the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The Committee expects to make a recommendation to the full Council after its June 19 meeting.

Item 8: Siting Task Force / Symposium Update

(Deb Ross reporting)

Chair Ross reported that Richard Rodger, Senate Staff, has taken over the lead in filling the task force positions. To date, there are four Senate appointees, and it is expected that the remaining four House appointees will be named by August. The task force has a December 1, 2000 deadline for completing its review of current energy siting statutes.

After consulting with the Governor's Office and the Executive Committee, the chair is recommending that the Council host a symposium on it's own. The symposium would provide a forum to present information and discuss issues in a one or two day retreat-like setting. It may be possible that the legislative task force could co-host the symposium if its membership is in place by the target dates of the first or second week in September. Funding for the symposium will come from the Washington State University contract that was recently extended to September 15.

The chair offered that in a two-day format, the first day could be used for informational sessions to bring participants up-to-date on EFSEC issues, with the second day devoted to workshops on selected topics. A one-day session could be formatted to present the same information and discussion opportunities.

Chair Ross asked members to consider what the result or outcome of the symposium would be. The symposium discussion points could be presented to the task force for follow-up or the Council could address some of the issues on its own initiative. Council member Gary Ray suggested that the symposium should seek to involve a wide variety of stakeholders as participants.

The Council concurred with the Chair's recommendation and staff was directed to start organizing the symposium, to including finding space for the early September dates.

Ellen Haars shared her concern that if we ask for issues to be brought forward for resolution, one of the outcomes may be to change or eliminate EFSEC. It was noted that the Council couldn't disband itself; that would be a legislative decision.

The chair responded that the task force would need to look at what is the best way to serve the public interest in Washington State and how to best site facilities. If it was determined that EFSEC was no longer serving a useful function, it may be possible for it to no longer exist.

Item 9: Other

New Secretary Administrative: Mr. Fiksdal introduced Mariah Laamb, who was hired on June 1 to fill EFSEC's Secretary Administrative position.

Vacation schedules: Chair Ross will be out of the office June 15 through July 15; Mr. Fiksdal will be out July 2 – July 23; and Ms. Laamb will be out July 1-10.

Item 10: Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.